

reforms include controlling health care costs, coordinating and capping benefits, protecting employers from frivolous lawsuits, as well as eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse in the workers' compensation system.

Senator Cupp's awards and recognitions are numerous. He is a four-time recipient of the Watchdog of the Treasury Award from the United Conservatives of Ohio, has received the Guardian of Small Business Award, was named the 1990 Vocational Education Legislator of the Year, was awarded the State 4-H Alumni Award, and was twice honored with the Ohio State Bar Association's Distinguished Service Award. He was named by the Associated Builders and Contractors as Legislator of the Year in 1992, Legislator of the Year by the Ohio Association of Local School Superintendents in 1995, and in 1996, he was recognized as the Outstanding Legislator by the United Conservatives of Ohio.

I would also like to recognize his wife, Libby, and their two teenage sons, Matthew and Ryan, for supporting Senator Cupp's efforts in the Ohio Senate.

Mr. Speaker, Senator Robert R. Cupp is an asset to the State of Ohio and his constituents. I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in commending him for his sixteen years of service and to wish him and his family the best in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING U.S. ARMY COLONEL
DANIEL DEVLIN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor a true patriot, soldier and citizen. U.S. Army Colonel Daniel Devlin, who has helped shape thousands of young soldiers as the Installation Commander at the Defense Language Institute, Foreign Language Center and Presidio of Monterey, will be retiring from the Army after 31 years of service to his country.

Colonel Devlin began his service as an Armor Second Lieutenant in 1969, having graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate from North Dakota State University. After service in various assignments from 1969–1976, he was selected for Soviet/East European Foreign Officer training, and attended civilian schools, the U.S. Army Russian Institute, and Command and General Staff College. From 1983–88 he served in the 66th Military Intelligence Group/Brigade with various assignments, and from 1988–90 he commanded the 6th Psychological Operations Battalion (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

During Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Colonel Devlin served as the Deputy Commander, 4th Psychological Operations Group in Saudi Arabia, then as a liaison officer to the American Embassy in Cairo, and finally as a liaison officer to the Joint Special Operations Command. In June of 1992, Colonel Devlin was assigned to the Pentagon as Chief of Psychological Operations and Civil Affairs for the Joint Staff.

My close association with Colonel Devlin began in February of 1996, when he came to Monterey to begin his tenure as Installation Commander of the Defense Language Institute and Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC), the premier foreign language school for the Department of Defense. His tenure at DLIFLC has resulted in a stronger and more vibrant academic and military institution. He created a teaching environment for DLI's highly qualified native language proficiency faculty that encouraged them to enhance their professionalism, resulting in the highest student proficiency scores. Language proficiency is an equally important aspect of post-Cold War military readiness. Also, Col. Devlin initiated a culture of "customer service" among the faculty and staff at the installation, through such means as pay increases based on merit and student performance.

Mr. Speaker, I have the unique distinction among my colleagues of representing the former Fort Ord, the largest closed military base in the nation. As the Installation Commander who oversaw the closure of a military community that once housed 29,000 residents, Colonel Devlin and I had the opportunity to work closely together, and I can truly attest to his leadership qualities, commitment to duty, attention to detail and willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure the smoothest possible transition to civilian use of the nation's largest piece of military real estate. While some of the most difficult challenges of closing the former Fort Ord are behind us, I regret that I am losing a close associate as the next phase of economic revitalization occurs on the Monterey Peninsula.

Webster's Dictionary defines friend as "a person whom one knows, likes and trust." Colonel Dan Devlin has truly been a friend to all residents of the Monterey Peninsula, and I am proud to call him my friend. I know all present today join me in wishing Colonel Devlin and his family a richly deserved retirement.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, this fall, the countries of Europe celebrated in Rome the 50th anniversary of the signing of the European Convention on Human Rights.

As a result of the horrendous atrocities and suffering during World War II, the countries of Europe, in an effort to create greater unity, organized the Hague Congress on May 7, 1948, remembered as the "Congress of Europe." Several months later, five foreign ministers met in Brussels to set up the Council of Europe, consisting of a ministerial committee and a consulting body. The Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (the European Convention on Human Rights) was drawn up within the newly-formed Council of Europe and signed on November 4, 1950. The Convention entered into force in September 1953.

The Convention was set up to take the first steps for the collective enforcement of certain rights enshrined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948. These rights range from protecting freedom of thought to the right to a fair trial. The first country to ratify the convention was the United Kingdom, which approved the document on March 8, 1951. Thus far, 41 countries have ratified the Convention, which currently protects the rights of over 800 million people.

To mark the anniversary of the Convention, ministers from all of the countries which have ratified the Convention met for a two-day conference in Rome this fall. Lamberto Dini, the Italian Foreign Minister, opened the conference. He praised the achievements of the convention, but lamented the continuing abuses of human rights: "In too many countries the dignity of too many individuals continues to be stamped on and despoiled, too often amid general indifference." The delegates met not only to celebrate the achievements of the past, but also to discuss many current human rights issues. The importance of the Convention was further highlighted by the presence of delegates from the United States and Japan, neither of whom are members of the convention.

The vision set out in the Convention remains an unfinished project. Across the European continent, discrimination against vulnerable groups and individuals leads to mistreatment or torture, especially ethnic, religious and racial minorities, refugees and asylum seekers. Much work has been done by The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture, a body set up in 1987 within the Council of Europe; nevertheless, the fact that many human rights abusers are able to act with impunity and escape justice continues to be a serious problem. Recently, human rights have been violated on a large scale in Bosnia, Kosovo and Chechnya; the onus is on European nations to improve intervention and rapid response methods in order to prevent such violations of human rights occurring in the future. The countries of Europe should rest assured that the United States will stand with our European friends in their efforts to achieve the goals of the Convention.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2000

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I missed the votes on Monday, November 13, 2000, on S. 2594 and S. 1972. I was delayed due to flight problems.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on S. 2594, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to contract with the Mancos Water Conservancy District to use the Mancos Project facilities for impounding, storage, diverting, and carriage of nonproject water for the purpose of irrigation, domestic, municipal, industrial, and any other beneficial purposes.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on S. 1972, a bill to direct the Secretary